

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed March 21, 2005 has been carefully considered.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Introduction

The office action has imposed a “species” type restriction requirement based on the various embodiments set forth in the specification rather than on the claims. The office action states that these embodiments are “species” and that there are no “generic” claims.

Applicant traverses and provisionally elects species #1 under duress.

Claims

There are 44 pending claims and 5 claims added by this paper. Claims 1, 16, 26, 31, 36, 39 and 45 are independent. The rest are dependent.

Figures

There are 44 figures as described at specification pages 5-8.

FIG. 1 describes the basic system. The rest of the figures describe specific embodiments of electroactive polymer actuators for use with the haptic feedback system of FIG. 1. The claims and the figures are not arranged in a one to one correspondence. Many of the claims cover implementations of more than one figure. Many of the figures are covered by more than one claim. Claims such as claims 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, 26, 31 and 39 are certainly “generic” in that such systems, apparatuses and methods may employ any of the EAP actuators disclosed and are intended to be covered thereby.

Summary

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction requirement should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is believed that this paper places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

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